



# The Mountain View

Mountain Presbyterian Church  
3831 Highway 515 East  
Blairsville, GA 30512

November 2010

## “Season of Gratitude”

### Celebrating Our Blessings & Our Opportunities

Fall has arrived with cooler temperatures. We’ve enjoyed the changing colors of the leaves and the blessing of living in these wonderful mountains. Customarily we just take all this for granted. In our lives these are normal, everyday conditions. Nothing special!

Well, not really. We live in a very special place. There are millions of people in this world who cannot envision nor comprehend such an environment. These people would consider any one of these conditions a major blessing. Yet, we see all of these as natural, everyday, ordinary, normal and run-of-the-mill. We are BLESSED to be living day after day after day in a place as awesome as these North Georgia Mountains.

As I sit here on the screened porch looking out toward the distant mountain ranges, pondering how we should conduct this year’s Stewardship Campaign, I am troubled and more than a little bit overwhelmed by the prospect.

“Stewardship” is a word associated with a particular period in the fall. Too often “Stewardship” is a dreaded word.

A time that ministers hope will swiftly pass by.

A word striking fear and discomfort in the hearts of many ministers.

A “word-disguise” for fund-raising in many churches.

A word that church members are equally apprehensive about and may frequently view as arm-twisting.

It torments ministers:

“Do I have to preach on Stewardship?”

“Will I be accused of talking too much about money from the pulpit?”

“Will I offend someone?”

When someone mentions “Stewardship,” what feelings do you experience?

Are they pleasant or uncomfortable; enjoyable or dreadful?

Does the word make you feel angry, fearful, upset?

Or does it make you feel happy, excited or pleased?

I’ll bet you did not choose the last set of feelings!

But Stewardship is not a bad thing. Stewardship in its proper definition and understanding is a great and good concept, denoting a truly noble biblical occupation. A worthy goal and objective for everyone to strive to achieve. The word “Stewardship” has gotten a bad reputation. Through the years the churches have distorted and abused the word. In Biblical times the word was not associated with fund-raising or solicitation. It was all about the duties of the highly respected job of a “Steward.” Unfortunately this job of Steward is virtually unknown in our 21st Century.

In today’s language the closest synonym is “manager.” You can probably name many people who hold the title of Manager: Store Manager, Office Manager, Business Manager, etc. A modern-day manager oversees, supervises and is responsible for the operation of a specific portion of an organization. The manager is expected to contribute to the financial success of the business by carefully using the assets and resources under his control.

As Christian Stewards/Managers, God has given us responsibility for the blessings He has bestowed upon us—including our financial blessings. Let us view good “Stewardship” of our resources as a worthy goal and objective. As we look toward 2011, may our giving through His church truly honor God, and reflect and affirm both our faith and our appreciation for all He has given us throughout our lives.

Gene Harrison for the Stewardship Committee



## Thanksgiving and Praise

**“Let us constantly offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that praise God’s name. Hebrews 13:15**

During this season of gratitude we have been reminded that we are to give thanksgiving to God for God’s many blessings. As I was thinking about “thanksgiving,” the companion word to it—praise—kept coming to mind. Not only are we to thank god, we are also to praise him and to tell others of his greatness, love and righteousness. The Book of Hebrews calls us to do this continuously.

So how do we fulfill this injunction? We joyfully make known God’s deeds and attributes to others. To share with others God’s deeds and blessings is one thing, but God’s attributes? What are they?

Let’s think of praise; what is it we are so thankful to God for being? I want to share with you an acrostic that I believe will enable us to praise God constantly and joyfully.

We praise God for he is **P**owerful:

“We are God’s people, whom God has redeemed by his great power and strong hand.” Nehemiah 1:10

We are to praise God for his **R**ighteousness:

“The Lord our God is righteous in all his work which he does for us God’s people.” Daniel 9:14

Let us praise God for he is abundantly **A**ble:

“Now to him by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church....” Ephesians 3:20

Let us praise God for his **I**nfinite wisdom:

“O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how infinite his ways. For from God and through God come all things. To God be the glory forever.” Romans 11:33

We are to praise God for his **S**trength:

“For who is God, but the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God? The God who has girded us with strength that cannot be moved.” 2 Samuel 22:32

Let us praise God for he is **E**verlasting:

“Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the earth. He gives power to the faint and strengthens the weak. Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” Isaiah 40:28

His name is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

In thanksgiving let us **PRAISE** the Lord!

*Travis*

### STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE: Revenue and Expenses for September 2010:

Contributions: \$14,916

Expenses: \$14,669

The August monthly contributions are greater than our expenses by \$247

Loan Balance: \$29,033

**Remembering Joe Dill**—Joe Dill, founding member of Mountain Presbyterian Church, went to be with our Lord on Wednesday, October 13th. Joe was our Director of Music for a number of years and we give thanks for his service to our congregation. Please keep his wife Chloe Ann in your prayers. Her address is 29308 Princeville Drive, San Antonio, FL 33576 if wish to drop her a note.

## News and Notes for the Women of Mountain Presbyterian

**Next Meeting:** November 19th at 10:00 a.m. Our study of Revelation continues with Chapter 6 (Lesson 4) and explains that the frightening images reveal the dangers of an unjust empire.

All women are welcome to join the study, followed by refreshments and a short meeting when we plan how best to help our church and community.



### PW Annual Christmas Luncheon

Our Annual Christmas Luncheon is being planned for Saturday, December 11. Mark your calendars and be sure to join us!

Note: There will not be a regular meeting in December.

### Change of Plans!

Instead of having a Bake Sale of both Thanksgiving and Christmas goodies, we will have samples and take orders for Christmas ONLY on December 5th during Fellowship Hour with delivery on December 19. What a wonderful way of enjoying a variety of delicious Holiday treats and supporting the projects of Presbyterian Women at the same time! Please contact Jeanne Ketchen, Nancy Jones or Connie Johnson if you can make baked goods for tasting and for sale.



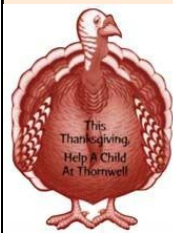
### Advent Reflections

The time is drawing near for the assembling of our Advent Devotional booklets. Please share your memories: former Advent/Christmas moments, songs, poems, special events, etc. associated with this special time of the Christian year. Just jot down your thoughts and place them in the orange basket in the narthex by November 15.



### Helping Thornwell Home for Children

The Presbyterian Women thank you for all the Campbell's and General Mills labels, box tops, coupons, etc. that you deposit in the bag on the PW kiosk in the Fellowship Hall. I am just amazed each Sunday when I see how the bag has grown. I have just mailed 500 of these to Thornwell. Each label is worth 10 cents, which means we have given \$50 toward a catalog order for a special need at Thornwell.



Have you seen the Thornwell turkeys in the Fellowship Hall, next to the PW kiosk? These cardboard turkey folders provide a place for coins and dollars—just fill the turkey and put it in the orange box. The deadline for returning turkeys is Wednesday, November 17th, then we'll send them off to help Thornwell during this Thanksgiving season.

Carol Anne Harrison  
PW Thornwell Chair

### Thanksgiving Celebration



Our Church Family Thanksgiving dinner will be on November 21st. Following worship come enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal with the turkey and stuffing provided by PW. Please plan to bring a side dish, salad or dessert. The Annual Thank Offering for International Presbyterian Women projects will be received that day.



### Flowers, Greeters And Coffee Hour

Thank you all so much for your continued support of these ministries!

#### November Greeters

- 7 Janet Sanders & Dottie Byrd
- 14 Sue Royal & Bob Johnson
- 21 Richard & Patti Czech
- 28 Joe, Dee & Brad McConnell

#### November Coffee Hour Hosts

- 7 Pat Grossman & Pat Hermann
- 14 Dottie Byrd
- 21 Thank Offering Dinner
- 28 Mary Rhodes

#### November Flower Calendar

- 7 Campbell
- 14 McConnell
- 21 Grossman
- 28 Andrews

## The Brasstown Ringers Return!

We are delighted to announce that once again we will be treated to a performance of the Brasstown Ringers here in our Sanctuary at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 12. Everyone who attended last year's concert was really blessed by these outstanding bell ringers.

Brasstown Ringers is a nondenominational community hand bell choir founded in 1992. The choir rings on six octaves of Schulmerich bells, five octaves of Whitechapel bells, and six octaves of Malmark choir chimes, along with various percussion instruments. While their concerts are free, donations to cover music and supplies are appreciated.

Mark your calendars, invite your friends and neighbors, and join us! The performance will be followed by a reception.



Enjoy a delicious meal with your family and friends at Brothers Restaurant on November 9 and benefit Habitat for Humanity. Just clip the coupon below!



### *Community Night Dinner for Habitat Brothers at Willow Ranch*

Hwy 515, Young Harris, Georgia

*Bring this coupon. One to a table.*

*Brothers will generously donate a percentage of the cost of your meals to help Habitat build another house for a local family in need.*

*Tuesday, November 9, 2010 4:30-8:30PM*

*Call ahead seating available. 706-379-1272*

### Daylight Saving Ends November 7

Set your clocks back one hour.  
Also a good time to change your  
smoke alarm batteries.



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